

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of inflammatory diseases of the
periodontum, the composition comprising:
 vitamin E.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein said vitamin E is dl-alpha-tocopheryl
10 acetate.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein said vitamin E is d-alpha-tocopheryl acetate.
4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E ranges
15 from about 7,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.
5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E ranges
from about 28,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.
- 20 6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E is about
28,000 I.U.
7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E is about

56,000 I.U.

8. A composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of inflammatory diseases of the periodontum comprising:

5 a therapeutically effective amount of vitamin E.

9. The composition of claim 8, wherein said vitamin E is d-alpha-tocopheryl acetate.

10. The composition of claim 8, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present
10 in said composition ranges from about 7,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.

11. The composition of claim 8, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present
in said composition ranges from about 28,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.

15 12. The composition of claim 8, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present
in said composition is about 28,000 I.U.

13. The composition of claim 8, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present
in said composition is about 56,000 I.U.

20 14. A method for the prophylaxis and treatment of diseases within the oral cavity
comprising:

applying a predetermined effective amount of vitamin E topically to the oral cavity.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said vitamin E is selected from dl-alpha-tocopheryl acetate and d-alpha-tocopheryl acetate.

5 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present in said composition ranges from about 7,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present in said composition ranges from about 28,000 I.U. to 56,000 I.U.

10 18. The method of claim 14, wherein the concentration of said vitamin E present in said composition is about 28,000 I.U.

19. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
15 applying an appropriate amount of vitamin E to the oral cavity to adequately coat said oral cavity.

20. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
applying the effective amount of vitamin E on a daily basis.